

EXHIBIT A

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24 **UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT**
25 **NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**
26 **OAKLAND DIVISION**

27 IN RE COLLEGE ATHLETE NIL
28 LITIGATION

Case No. 4:20-cv-03919-CW

STIPULATION AND [PROPOSED]
ORDER RE AMENDED DEPOSITION

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PROTOCOL

Judge: Hon. Claudia Wilken

1 WHEREAS, the parties in the above-captioned action are engaged in discovery and
2 desire to depose witnesses as part of the discovery process;

3 WHEREAS, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(b)(4), “[t]he parties may
4 stipulate . . . that a deposition be taken by telephone or other remote means”;

5 WHEREAS, the parties recognize there may be a variety of valid reasons for taking a fact
6 deposition in this action by remote means;

7 WHEREAS, the parties ~~seek to establish~~established a protocol for the conduct of in
8 person and remote fact depositions, to the extent that any depositions in this action are taken
9 remotely; ~~and~~

10 WHEREAS, the parties also ~~seek to establish~~established a protocol for the conduct of
11 fact depositions where some attendees are in person and some are remote;

12 WHEREAS, the parties filed a Joint Stipulation and Proposed Order re Deposition
13 Protocol on December 13, 2022 (ECF 211), and the Court entered the Stipulation and Order re
14 Deposition Protocol on December 14, 2022 (ECF 213); and

15 WHEREAS, the parties seek to amend the Stipulation and Order re Deposition Protocol
16 to change the deadlines for designating confidential deposition testimony and providing
17 deposition errata. A comparison showing the proposed changes is attached as Exhibit A.

18 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED, by the parties hereto, through their
19 undersigned counsel, and subject to the Court’s approval, that this Amended Deposition Protocol
20 govern the procedures for conducting fact depositions in this action:

21 **I. GENERAL GUIDELINES**

22 1. This Protocol will govern the taking of fact depositions in the above-captioned
23 matter both in person and via remote means. The parties agree this Protocol will also govern
24 depositions of nonparties under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 45 and the parties shall meet
25 and confer in good faith regarding any modifications requested by such nonparties.

1 2. All depositions taken in this action—whether in person or remote—shall be
 2 conducted using videoconference technology, and all deponents shall be recorded by both
 3 stenographic means and video recording. The court reporter may be given a copy of the video
 4 recording of the deposition and may review such video recording to improve the accuracy of the
 5 written transcript. For remote depositions, the parties waive any objection to the deposition based
 6 on the fact that the court reporter is not physically present with the deponent or, if applicable,
 7 that the court reporter is not physically present in the same state as the deponent.

8 3. Testimony provided in remote depositions may be used in this action with the
 9 same force and effect as testimony provided in an in-person deposition. The parties agree not to
 10 object to the use of the deposition testimony or video recording on the basis that the deposition
 11 was taken and recorded remotely. The parties reserve the right to raise all other available
 12 objections to the use of the deposition testimony in this action.

13 **II. NOTICE**

14 4. The party intending to notice a deposition of a party or a witness affiliated with a
 15 party shall confer with opposing counsel in a good faith attempt to identify a mutually
 16 convenient date and time for a party deposition before noticing the deposition. Unless otherwise
 17 agreed by the noticing and defending party, the parties shall use their best efforts to notice
 18 depositions at least fourteen (14) calendar days in advance of the deposition and cross notices at
 19 least seven (7) calendar days in advance. However, for notices or subpoenas directed to an
 20 organization under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 30(b)(6), the parties shall use their best
 21 efforts to issue deposition notices—including a reasonably particular description of the matters
 22 of examination—at least twenty-one (21) calendar days in advance of the deposition; best efforts
 23 shall be used to issue cross notices—including a reasonably particular description of the matters
 24 of examination—fourteen (14) days in advance.

25 5. When a party schedules a deposition of a non-party witness, the scheduling party
 26 shall inform opposing counsel of any deposition date agreed to by the non-party witness within
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(1) business day of that agreement. Nothing in this stipulation prevents opposing counsel from objecting to the date agreed to by the party and non-party witness for whatever reason.

6. Deposition notices may be served electronically on all parties.

7. The decision to take a deposition remotely shall, subject to the terms of this Protocol, belong to the party noticing the deposition.

8. If a party notices a deposition to occur in person, but another party believes circumstances warrant taking the deposition remotely, or vice versa, the parties shall confer in good faith to resolve the issue. Disputes that cannot be resolved through the meet and confer process or within a reasonable timeframe shall be decided by the Court.

9. If a party intends to cross-notice a deposition of a nonparty and disagrees with the noticing party's election to proceed remotely or in person, the parties shall confer in good faith to resolve the issue. Not all parties need be present in person if either of the parties elects to proceed with a cross-noticed deposition of a nonparty in person. To the extent any party elects to proceed remotely for a deposition of a nonparty, that party must comply with the applicable technological provisions set out in Part IV.

10. All notices of deposition and nonparty deposition subpoenas served in this matter for remote depositions shall describe the remote means of taking the deposition, including (a) that the deposition will be taken by remote means; (b) the court reporting service the party plans to use to record the deposition (the “Designated Court Reporting Service”); (c) the videoconference platform the party plans to use for the deposition (i.e., Zoom or a platform with similar functionality); and (d) that the deposition will be recorded by stenographic means and video recording. If any of information identified in (a) through (d) is accidentally omitted from a deposition notice or deposition subpoena, this shall not be cause to render the notice or subpoena ineffective. The deposition notices and nonparty deposition subpoenas must also otherwise comply with the notice requirements of Federal Rules of Civil Procedure 30(b) and 45 (when applicable).

1 11. The noticing party shall provide any non-party deponent with a copy of this
 2 Protocol with the notice of deposition or subpoena for any deposition, whether in person or
 3 remote.

4 12. The parties are not required to cross-notice the deposition of their own current or
 5 former employees, or of any employees or former employees of their respective co-plaintiffs or
 6 co-defendants.

7 13. In the event of an in-person deposition, unless otherwise agreed, depositions will
 8 occur in a city chosen by the deponent, reasonably located at counsel's office or within 100 miles
 9 of where the deponent resides, is employed, or regularly transacts business in person.

10 14. Unless the deposition occurs remotely, the party noticing the deposition shall
 11 secure a room for the deposition that will accommodate the deponent, the court reporter, the
 12 videographer, counsel for the parties, and counsel representing the deponent. The noticing party
 13 shall also secure two "breakout rooms" of reasonable size for the noticing party and the
 14 defending party.

15 **III. COURT REPORTER AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH**

16 15. For all depositions—whether in-person or remote—the party taking the deposition
 17 shall ensure that other parties are able to observe the deposition via a video conference platform.
 18 The party taking the deposition will ensure that information regarding how to access the video
 19 conference platform (e.g., hyperlink to Zoom conference room) is provided to all parties within a
 20 reasonable amount of time prior to the deposition (but not less than 24 hours).

21 16. The Designated Court Reporting Service will be the host of the videoconference
 22 for each deposition whether in-person or remote.

23 17. It will be the responsibility of the party noticing the deposition to ensure that the
 24 Designated Court Reporting Service is aware of, capable of complying with, and agrees to
 25 comply with this Protocol.

1 18. The court reporter shall be permitted to administer the oath and record the
 2 deposition, and the parties waive any objection to the qualifications of the court reporter before
 3 whom the deposition is taken, so long as the court reporter is qualified to administer the oath and
 4 record depositions in federal court within the district in which the court reporter is physically
 5 located at the time of the deposition.

6 19. The party noticing the deposition bears the costs of the Designated Court
 7 Reporting Service, with the exception of copies of transcripts or video recordings.

8 **IV. TECHNOLOGY AND SETTING**

9 20. Any deposition shall use a platform and system(s) that comply with all
 10 requirements of this Protocol, including the ability to provide high-quality and reliable video and
 11 audio streaming to all participants.

12 21. To host a deposition, a deposition vendor must have implemented adequate
 13 security measures to ensure the confidentiality of the deposition. These security measures include
 14 using tools such as a “virtual waiting room” that allows the court reporter to admit only
 15 individuals authorized to attend the deposition.

16 22. If another party raises concerns with the platform and system(s) selected by the
 17 noticing party for any deposition, the parties agree to meet and confer in good faith to resolve
 18 those concerns. The noticing party shall bear the costs of the deposition vendor.

19 23. If requested, the Designated Court Reporting Service shall provide a
 20 demonstration of the technology being used for the deposition to the deponent and their counsel.
 21 To the extent a cost is incurred for such demonstration, the party requesting the demonstration
 22 shall bear the cost. If such a demonstration is not requested and a deponent or the deponent’s
 23 counsel encounters issues that reasonably could have been covered in such a demonstration, any
 24 time spent resolving the issue shall not count as time on the record for purposes of any time
 25 limitations on the deposition.

1 24. At the beginning of any remote deposition, the court reporter must confirm: (a)
 2 that they can hear all participants; (b) that all participants can hear each other and the court
 3 reporter; and (c) that the platform being used to share exhibits is functioning and all participants
 4 can see any documents shown. The time spent on such confirmations will not be on the record.

5 25. The parties will work cooperatively to address and troubleshoot technological
 6 (including audio or video) issues that arise during the deposition and make such provisions as are
 7 reasonable under the circumstances to address such issues. This provision shall not be
 8 interpreted to compel any party to proceed with a deposition where the participants are unable to
 9 hear or understand each other. Time spent dealing with technical difficulties will not be counted
 10 against any applicable time limits for the deposition. If technical difficulties arise during the
 11 taking of a remote deposition, and there is no technical specialist available during the deposition,
 12 counsel for the parties must meet and confer as soon as is practicable, by telephone or other
 13 means, to determine whether the remote deposition can proceed or should be continued to a
 14 future date. If technical difficulties arise that make the completion of a remote deposition
 15 impracticable, counsel for parties and the deponent shall resume the remote deposition at a
 16 mutually convenient opportunity within a reasonable period of time.

17 26. For remote depositions, the deponent is responsible for locating a private, quiet
 18 space in which to participate in the deposition without interruption. All the deponent's
 19 communication devices, including mobile phones, other than the device hosting the video
 20 conferencing platform used by the Designated Court Reporting Service for that deposition, must
 21 be turned off or removed from the location of the deposition. The parties agree that no person
 22 shall be permitted to be physically present in the room with the deponent, other than counsel for
 23 the deponent or counsel for the parties.

24 27. It shall be the responsibility of the deponent and their counsel to ensure that the
 25 deponent has adequate equipment (e.g., computer, webcam, microphone), internet access, and
 26 bandwidth necessary to participate in a video deposition without interruption. Other than the
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1 applications required to conduct the deposition and view exhibits, the deponent shall not have
2 any other applications open or running on the electronic device being used for the deposition.
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4 28. Any public chat function available on the video conference platform will be
5 enabled, but any private chat functions shall not be used and shall be disabled, if technically
possible.
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V. ATTENDANCE AND COMMUNICATIONS WITH COUNSEL

7 29. The deponent, court reporter, videographer, counsel for the parties, party
8 representatives, and counsel representing the deponent may attend depositions. Counsel not
9 examining the deponent and party representatives shall have the option to attend for
10 observational purposes remotely, even for depositions that are otherwise in person.
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12 30. Attendees of any in-person deposition shall use their best efforts to advise the
13 party providing or arranging the deposition space of their intention to attend an in-person
14 deposition at least seven (7) calendar days before the deposition is scheduled to take place. In
15 particular, if a party wants to have an individual attend a deposition, and that individual does not
16 have permission to view certain categories of confidential documents under the protective order
17 in this case, that party will use its best efforts to inform the party taking the deposition of this fact
as soon as possible prior to the deposition.
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19 31. At the start of a remote deposition, all individuals in the same room as the
20 deponent shall identify themselves on the record. If another person enters the room where the
21 deponent is located, the deponent or the deponent's counsel shall immediately notify the
deposing counsel of the additional persons in the room.
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23 32. For remote depositions, the deponent, court reporter, counsel examining the
24 deponent, and counsel representing the deponent shall be visible to all other participants and
25 their statements shall be audible to all participants at all times while on the record. If the video
or audio feed of these persons is lost, the deposition will be suspended and go off the record until
26 resolved. All other remote participants shall make their presence known to all other participants,
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1 but they shall keep their microphones on mute and video turned off unless and until they wish to
 2 speak and, after having spoken, they shall go back on mute with video turned off.
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4 33. No individual shall engage in a private communication, including through text
 5 message, electronic mail, handwritten notes, hand gestures, or the chat feature in the
 6 videoconferencing system, with the deponent while the deposition is on the record. In the event
 7 counsel intends to initiate a private communication with any deponent for the purpose of
 8 determining whether a privilege should be asserted, counsel shall state their intention on the
 9 record before initiating such communication and then the deposition shall go off the record while
 10 the private communication regarding privilege is undertaken. Nothing in this paragraph is
 11 intended to alter any local or federal rules governing communications with witnesses during a
 12 deposition.

13 34. For remote depositions, the official video record of the deposition will be of the
 14 deponent's video feed only. The video feeds of any other participant will not be part of the
 15 official record, nor used for any purpose at trial. However, a video record of any attorney
 16 questioning the deponent and any attorney representing the deponent in person at the same
 17 location as the deponent shall be maintained by the Designated Court Reporting Service for not
 18 less than 12 months and may be requested and used in any proceeding concerning alleged
 19 interference or impropriety in the deposition. No video recordings of any other participant shall
 20 be made.

21 35. During breaks in a remote deposition, the parties may use virtual breakout rooms
 22 provided by the Designated Court Reporting Service. The noticing party shall make all
 23 reasonable efforts to select a Designated Court Reporting Service that provides breakout rooms
 24 and shall, if necessary, hire a technician to facilitate with breakout room assignments.
 25 Conversations in the breakout rooms shall not be recorded. The breakout rooms shall be
 26 established by the Designated Court Reporting Service prior to the deposition and shall be
 27 controlled by the Designated Court Reporting Service. If, due to a technological issue, mistake,
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or any other reason, a participant has been placed in the breakout room of an opposing party, that participant shall immediately identify themselves and leave the breakout room.

36. The employees of the Designated Reporting Service may attend the deposition for which they are designated to prepare a transcript of the deposition, video record the deposition, troubleshoot any technological issues that may arise, administer virtual breakout rooms, assist in displaying or providing exhibits, or any other reason reasonably related to the conduct of the deposition.

VI. EXHIBITS

37. For in-person depositions, depoing counsel shall supply hard copies of all exhibits they intend to use during the deposition, including exhibits that were previously designated in prior depositions. Depoing counsel shall have sufficient copies of each exhibit to provide a copy to (i) the deponent; (ii) defending counsel; (iii) the court reporter; and (iv) counsel for all other parties who have timely notified noticing counsel of their intent to attend the deposition in person, but in no event shall depoing counsel be required to provide more than nine (9) copies of any exhibit. Unless otherwise agreed by the parties, no exhibit-sharing platform shall be required for an in-person deposition. However, for in-person depositions where some counsel are participating remotely, the examining counsel shall clearly identify the exhibit when it is first shown to the deponent and read the beginning bates number when available.

38. For remote depositions, deposing counsel may supply hard copies or transmit exhibits through an exhibit sharing platform provided by the Designated Court Reporting Service or via the public chat feature of the deposition videoconferencing platform.

39. For remote depositions where depositing counsel elects to supply hard copies, depositing counsel shall send physical copies of the documents that may be used as exhibits during the deposition in sealed packages to (i) the witness; (ii) defending counsel; and (iii) the court reporter. The depositing counsel shall make all efforts to have the documents arrive to the recipients at least 24 hours prior to the start of the deposition. All counsel receiving the

1 documents shall send deposing counsel an email confirming their receipt of the package. For
 2 remote depositions where deposing counsel elects to transmit exhibits through an exhibit sharing
 3 platform (as described in paragraph 38), the deponent and their counsel must then be provided
 4 with a reasonable opportunity to print those documents (time that will not be counted on the
 5 record) before they are used in the deposition, if they elect to do so. If they elect to do so, the
 6 deponent and their counsel should not discuss the document before the deponent is asked
 7 questions about it on the record, and the deponent should not review the document off the record
 8 without the agreement of deposing counsel.

9 40. If deposing counsel elects to transmit exhibits through an exhibit sharing
 10 platform, the exhibits need not be provided to the deponent or counsel for all parties before they
 11 are shown to the deponent. The method used to share the documents must allow the deponent
 12 and counsel for all parties to review the exhibits independently and in their entirety after they are
 13 introduced.

14 41. All documents marked as exhibits shall be attached to the original transcript and
 15 retained with the original transcript. Copies of exhibits may be attached to copies of the
 16 transcript where the party ordering the transcript pays for the costs of copying those exhibits.

17 42. If a deponent desires to take notes during the deposition, it will be handwritten on
 18 paper provided by the deponent. If the deposing counsel desires to have those notes made an
 19 exhibit to the deposition record, they will be shown via video on the record to deposing counsel
 20 for examination and questioning and then electronically scanned and emailed to (a) defending
 21 counsel; (b) the court reporter for inclusion in the record; and (c) counsel for any other parties
 22 attending the deposition (including deposing counsel) before the conclusion of the deposition.
 23 The time spent scanning and emailing the notes will not be on the record.

24 43. If defending counsel is not counsel for a party in this action, they shall return all
 25 hard copies of documents marked at any level of confidentiality that originated from deposing
 26 counsel for purposes of the deposition to deposing counsel at the conclusion of an in-person
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1 deposition or, for a remote deposition, within seven (7) calendar days following the deposition.
 2 For a remote deposition, if the deposing counsel elects to supply hard copies pursuant to
 3 paragraph 39, deposing counsel shall include a pre-paid return shipping label in the package of
 4 documents sent to defending counsel of any nonparty prior to the deposition to facilitate the
 5 return of the documents.

6 44. For a remote deposition, deposing counsel may elect to provide documents to
 7 each recipient in multiple sealed envelopes, organized in a manner as they see fit. If so, the
 8 recipients shall not open any sealed envelope until instructed to do so during the deposition.
 9 Such envelopes shall be marked in some manner to facilitate recognizing which envelope to
 10 open (e.g., numbers, letters, descriptive terms). Any sealed envelopes that were not opened
 11 during the deposition shall be returned, including by defending counsel for a party in this action,
 12 to deposing counsel within seven (7) calendar days after the conclusion of the deposition in their
 13 unopened and sealed state.

14 45. To the extent possible, counsel for the parties agree to number deposition exhibits
 15 consecutively from deposition to deposition taken by a party. For example, if plaintiffs use
 16 Exhibits 1 to 5 in their first deposition, then the second deposition taken by plaintiffs may begin
 17 with Exhibit 6.

18 46. In accordance with Local Rule 30-2(b)(3), to the extent practicable, any exhibit
 19 which is an exact duplicate of an exhibit previously numbered must bear the same exhibit
 20 number, regardless of which Party is using the exhibit. Any new document, or any version of
 21 any exhibit which is not an exact duplicate, must be marked and treated as a different exhibit
 22 bearing a new exhibit number.

23 47. All depositions, including remote depositions, are subject to the terms of the
 24 Protective Order (ECF 137), the Supplemental Stipulation and Order (ECF 148), and the Second
 25 Supplemental Stipulation and Order (ECF 181).

VII. TIME

48. All deposition limitations on time may be modified by agreement.

49. The party noticing the deposition may reserve a portion of their allocated time to conduct redirect examination, which can be used only if time is used by counsel for the deponent or counsel for co-plaintiffs or co-defendants and may cover only the topics discussed during the deposition by counsel for the deponent or examining counsel other than those for the party noticing the deposition.

50. The Defendants may split their allotted time at their discretion.

51. The court reporter or videographer shall maintain a total running time of the actual deposition.

VIII. CONFIDENTIALITY

49. If information or documents that are subject to a confidentiality designation that limits access to outside counsel only or to a subset of outside counsel only is raised during the deposition, the examining attorney shall state the confidentiality status of the information for the record in advance and confirm that all persons who are not permitted to see or know that information be removed from the proceedings, whether in person or remote, for the duration of that discussion.

50. Absent agreement to the contrary or a showing of good cause, deposition transcripts will temporarily be treated as Network Strictly Confidential Discovery Material for ~~twenty-one~~forty-five (2145) calendar days after the ~~court reporter finalizes the transcript and exhibits~~deposition. Such temporary treatment shall not prevent deposing counsel, the deponent, or defending counsel from reviewing the transcript during such ~~twenty-one-day~~forty-five-day period, except for such portions of the transcript where such individual was not permitted to participate in the deposition pursuant to the Protective Order. A party may designate a portion of the transcript as Confidential, Highly Confidential, Highly Confidential NCAA Member Financial Data, Highly Confidential Billing Records, Conference Strictly Confidential, Network

Strictly Confidential Discovery Material or any other confidentiality designation permitted under the Protective Order (or any future amendments thereto) (a) on the record during the deposition or (b) within the applicable ~~twenty-one~~forty-five (~~21~~45) calendar day period, by written notice to all parties, specifying the page and line numbers of the deposition transcript that are subject to the designation. To the extent this 45-day period ends on a weekend or holiday, any confidentiality designations shall be due on the next business day. To the extent that a court-filing deadline falls between the date of a deposition and the ending date of this 45-day period, the parties will meet and confer regarding the appropriate timing for the forwarding of any confidentiality designations (i) the parties; and (ii) the court reporter. A party may challenge another party's designation pursuant to the Protective Order.

51. Upon receipt of errata and confidentiality designations, the court reporter shall reproduce the final transcript to indicate which pages include testimony that has been designated as “CONFIDENTIAL,” “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL—COUNSEL ONLY,” “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL NCAA MEMBER FINANCIAL DATA—LEAD COUNSEL ONLY,” “HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL BILLING RECORDS—OUTSIDE COUNSEL ONLY,” “HOUSE CSC – OUTSIDE LITIGATION COUNSEL ONLY,” or “HOUSE NSC – OUTSIDE LITIGATION COUNSEL ONLY.”

IX. OTHER MATTERS

52. An objection by one party or, in depositions of third parties, by deponent's counsel is sufficient to preserve the objection for all parties and counsel shall avoid repeating objections already preserved.

53. All parties shall abide by the applicable federal and local rules and precedents regarding objections.

54. Each party is responsible for ordering from the court reporter any desired transcripts or video recordings of depositions. All parties shall bear their own costs for such transcripts or video recordings.

1 55. Absent an agreement to the contrary or upon good cause shown, within
 2 ~~thirty~~forty-five (~~30~~45) calendar days of ~~receipt~~the date of the ~~final transcript~~deposition, the
 3 deponent or the deponent's counsel shall forward any errata to (i) the parties; and (ii) the court
 4 reporter, who will promptly notify all counsel of its receipt. To the extent this 45-day period
 5 ends on a weekend or holiday, any errata shall be due on the next business day. To the extent
 6 that a court-filing deadline falls between the date of a deposition and the ending date of this
 7 45-day period, the parties will meet and confer regarding the appropriate timing for the
 8 forwarding of any errata to (i) the parties; and (ii) the court reporter.

9 56. The Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, the Local Civil Rules of the Northern
 10 District of California, and any other governing laws control all matters not expressly addressed
 11 herein.

12 57. The parties may agree on ad hoc modifications to this Protocol to accommodate
 13 the needs of a particular deponent or to resolve any issues that arise regarding a particular
 14 deposition. Such modifications may be agreed in writing or memorialized on the record at the
 15 deposition.

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1 Dated: ~~December 13, 2022~~February
2 [X], 2023

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